

10 proverbs

1. 己所不欲，勿施於人。

What I do not like myself, I should ask do unto others.

2. 勿以善小而不為，勿以惡小而為之。

Do not consider any virtue as unimportant and therefore not do it; or any vice as trivial and therefore practice it.

3. 為善善日增，改過過日減，莫問能不能，但問肯不肯。

Do good, and good days will be added unto you; reform, and evil days will diminish. Don't ask *can I or can I not*, only ask *am I willing or not*.

4. 天有不測風雲，人有旦夕禍福。

Just as the (coming) of wind & clouds cannot be predicted, so men have misery & happiness alternately, early or later.

5. 近朱則赤，近墨則黑。

That which touches vermilion is reddened, and that which touches ink blackened.

6. <sup>no</sup> 謀事在人，成事在天。

Man proposes, heaven disposes.

7. 善有善報，惡有惡報，不是不報，時辰未到。

Virtue has a good reward, and vice is punished; if not now, it is because the time for it has not yet come.

8. 十年行善不足，一日作惡有餘。

For ten years to act virtuously is not enough, and one day's vice is superabundant.

9. 要知心內事，且聽口中言。

If you want to know (a man's) motives, hear first what he says.

(over)

10. 畫龍畫皮難畫骨，知人知面不知心。

When painting a dragon one only paints  
the external appearance, (but not the bones);  
so to know a man is to know his  
appearance, not his heart.